

Along with the maintenance of streets, the Street Division is responsible for constructing new street surfaces, curbs and gutters, and storm sewers. The costs of these improvements are absorbed by abutting property owners, but the City furnishes the necessary equipment and labor.

In the subdivision regulations adopted by Thomasville it is required of the subdivider to put in all necessary street improvements. This means that the City is relieved of this expense and can devote its energies and resources to the backlog of streets now unpaved. In time it will be possible for Thomasville to have all its streets paved. The equipment used by the Street Division is second-hand and is purchased from the State Highway Commission. Most of it ranges from six to eight years in age and demands a great amount of time and money for upkeep.

Money to finance street improvements is taken from a revolving fund and Powell Bill Funds. The Powell Bill provides the City with \$60,000 a year for street improvements and maintenance. At the present time the amount in the revolving fund is very small and is a limiting factor in the amount of miles of street that can be paved annually. If this fund were to be increased, the street improvement program would be accelerated. As part of the forthcoming bond issue in September, 1964, \$100,000 of the total will be earmarked for the revolving fund so that this problem will be solved if the bond issue is voted on favorably.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The City of Thomasville should continue its program of improving the street system. Once the major thoroughfare plan is complete, it should be used as a guide for future improvements.
2. The City of Thomasville has a policy of assessing abutting property owners for the cost of materials in new streets. This should be expanded to include labor costs so that this money could be released from the general fund and then be channeled into other much needed community improvements.
3. The City of Thomasville should start purchasing new equipment to gradually replace the aged equipment.